UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/774,559 | 02/09/2004 | Clifford F. Biddulph | PVOZ 200015US01 | 8972 |
| 27885 FAY SHARPE | 7590 04/19/201 LLP | EXAMINER | | |
| | renue, 5th Floor | ZHENG, LOIS L | | |
| The Halle Build Cleveland, OH | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 1793 | |
| | | | | |
| | | | MAIL DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
| | | | 04/19/2010 | PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)

| Application No. | Applicant(s) |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 10/774,559 | BIDDULPH ET AL. |
| Examiner | Art Unit |
| LOIS ZHENG | 1793 |

The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address

| The amendment document filed on <u>22 December 2009</u> is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121 or 1.4. In order for the amendment document to be compliant, correction of the following item(s) is required. | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| HE FOLLOWING MARKED (X) ITEM(S) CAUSE THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT TO BE NON-COMPLIANT: 1. Amendments to the specification: A. Amended paragraph(s) do not include markings. B. New paragraph(s) should not be underlined. C. Other | | | | |
| 2. Abstract:A. Not presented on a separate sheet. 37 CFB. Other | FR 1.72. | | | |
| "Annotated Sheet" as required by 37 CFR B. The practice of submitting proposed draw | the top margin as "Replacement Sheet," "New Sheet," or 1.121(d). ing correction has been eliminated. Replacement drawings gs, in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 are required. | | | |
| C. Each claim has not been provided with the of each claim cannot be identified. Note: number by using one of the following state (Previously presented), (New), (Not entered) | t present. ext of all pending claims (including withdrawn claims) e proper status identifier, and as such, the individual status the status of every claim must be indicated after its claim us identifiers: (Original), (Currently amended), (Canceled), ed), (Withdrawn) and (Withdrawn-currently amended). e not been presented in ascending numerical order. | | | |
| 5. Other (e.g., the amendment is unsigned or not signed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.4): <u>See Continuation Sheet</u> | | | | |
| For further explanation of the amendment format required by | y 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP § 714. | | | |
| TIME PERIODS FOR FILING A REPLY TO THIS NOTICE: | | | | |
| 1. Applicant is given no new time period if the non-compliant amendment is an after-final amendment or an amendment filed after allowance. If applicant wishes to resubmit the non-compliant after-final amendment with corrections, the entire corrected amendment must be resubmitted. | | | | |
| 2. Applicant is given one month , or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mail date of this notice to supply the correction, if the non-compliant amendment is one of the following: a preliminary amendment, a non-final amendment (including a submission for a request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114), a supplemental amendment filed within a suspension period under 37 CFR 1.103(a) or (c), and an amendment filed in response to a <i>Quayle</i> action. If any of above boxes 1. to 4. are checked, the correction required is only the corrected section of the non-compliant amendment in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. | | | | |
| Extensions of time are available under 37 CFR 1.136(a) only if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a <i>Quayle</i> action. | | | | |
| Failure to timely respond to this notice will result in: Abandonment of the application if the non-compliant amendment is a non-final amendment or an amendment filed in response to a Quayle action; or Non-entry of the amendment if the non-compliant amendment is a preliminary amendment or supplemental amendment. | | | | |
| /LLZ/ | / Roy King/ | | | |
| LO Palantani Tantani Cir | Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1793 | | | |

Continuation of 5 Other:

Applicant's claim amendments filed 22 December 2009 change the originally claimed aqueous acidic solution to a black chromate conversion coating. Newly amended claims 1-6, 8-9 and 19-23 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons:

The newly presented invention as a result of the claim amendment and the previously presented invention are distinct in that they are capable of separate manufacture, use, or sale as claimed and are patentable (novel and unobvious) over each other (though they may each be unpatentable because of the prior art), MPEP 802.01.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 1-6, 8-9 and 19-23 are withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

Since no claims remain for examination, applicant's response is not in compliance.